

**Weekly Weather  
Crop Report**

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575  
Facsimile:601-965-5622  
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/  
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending September 22, 2002

Released: 3:00 P.M., September 23, 2002

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending September 22, 2002**. Harvest continued strong last week until rains soaked much of the state. Soil moisture was rated 6 percent very short, 23 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2001	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Mature	100	99	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	92	83	81	90					
	Silage Harvested	100	99	100	100					
Cotton	Open Bolls	92	88	98	94	0	3	17	52	28
	Harvested	17	9	12	21					
Rice	Mature	97	93	96	93	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	67	38	61	63					
Sorghum	Harvested	96	81	83	87	--	--	--	--	--
	Silage Harvested	87	81	94	87					
Soybeans	Turning Color	89	80	90	89	0	6	21	50	23
	Shedding Leaves	78	64	79	76					
	Harvested	45	35	41	39					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	30	23	47	37	3	10	27	56	4
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	97	94	90	94	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Planted	9	2	4	5	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						2	5	17	61	15
Pasture						2	9	25	55	9

**County Agent Comments**

“Extreme dry conditions are allowing producers to get just about all of the MG III and IV soybeans out. Corn harvest is close to 80 percent harvested too. Some defoliant went on at the end of last week and the pickers are just getting started this week. There are a few cases of weak crops, but for the most part the yield is going to turn out pretty good.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

“Corn harvest is on schedule. Rain was welcomed on late beans in some areas of the county. Cotton is beginning to open. Insect pressure is light.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah County

“Rains mid-week really helped out all crops except cotton and corn. Sweetpotato harvest has been slow due to droughty soils, and pasture conditions have worsened.”

— Bill Burdine, Chickasaw County

“Planting of cool season forages is in full swing for beef and dairy producers who have been able to secure financing for planting ryegrass and/or small grains. Depressed dairy prices continue to plague local dairy producers, and many are continuing to explore options to sell out of the dairy business. Beef cattle producers are seeking financing to purchase cheap calves this fall in hopes of higher prices next spring.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

“With tropical storm Hannah came much needed rain, and folks are starting to get into full swing with planting cool season forages. Producers are gearing up to start defoliating cotton and preparing for the soybean harvest. Peanut producers have had a good season with very few problems.”

— Mike Steede, George County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Cooperative  
Extension Service  
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center  
Louisiana State University  
Elizabeth Mons  
Service Climatologist  
www.srcc.lsu.edu

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary from September 16, 2002 to September 22, 2002 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	93	67	79	74	+5	4.47	+3.77	3	4.47	82	72	77	0.17
Cleveland	94	67	79	74	+5	2.02E	+1.35	3	2.02E				
Tunica	96	71	81	73	+8	3.51E	+2.88	4	3.58E	90	77	82	0.11
Extreme/Average	96	67	79	74	+5	3.33	+2.56	3	3.36	90	72	79	0.14
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs				70		2.00E	+1.16	4	2.00				0.24
Memphis	89	63	77	74	+3	7.83	+7.04	4	9.24				
Oxford	92	65	78	72	+6	0.62	-0.25	3	0.72				
Extreme/Average	92	63	77	73	+4	3.48	+2.61	4	3.99				0.24
3. Northeast													
Booneville	91	68	79	71	+8	1.96	+1.10	5	2.01				
Corinth	91	66	79	73	+6	3.28	+2.27	4	3.28				
Iuka	94	64	77	69	+8	4.68	+3.70	5	4.71				
Pontotoc	91	68	78	73	+5	1.37	+0.39	6	2.07	90	77	82	0.21
Tupelo	91	65	78	73	+5	1.48	+0.64	5	1.88				
Verona	94	70	80	73	+7	1.48	+0.51	4	1.63	94	77	84	0.17
Extreme/Average	94	64	79	72	+7	2.38	+1.45	5	2.60	94	77	83	0.18
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni				75			-0.70						
Rolling Fork	97	71	81	75	+6	2.20	+1.49	5	2.31	100	83	88	0.12
Stoneville	95	69	80	74	+6	3.71	+2.91	4	3.89	92	76	84	0.15
Yazoo City	95	71	82	75	+7	1.42	+0.75	2	1.59				
Extreme/Average	97	69	81	75	+6	2.44	+1.67	4	2.60	100	76	86	0.13
5. Central													
Carthage	94	69	81	74	+7	3.65	+2.82	3	3.65				
Greenwood	92	63	79	75	+4	1.75	+0.95	5	1.75				
Jackson	92	72	81	75	+6	3.01	+2.24	4	3.40				
Winona	93	68	78	70	+8	1.25	+0.37	6	1.25				
Extreme/Average	94	63	80	74	+6	2.42	+1.58	5	2.51				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	92	70	81			2.24E	+1.40	3	2.24E	83	77	80	
Columbus	93	69	81	74	+7	1.63	+0.79	6	1.84				
State University	95	67	81	73	+8	3.35	+2.51	4	3.96	89	80	84	0.16
Extreme/Average	95	67	81	74	+7	2.41	+1.50	4	2.68	89	77	82	0.16
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	98	70	82	75	+7	2.07	+1.02	3	2.17	85	83	84	
Natchez	88	66	77	76	+1	1.83	+0.99	4	2.42				
Oakley	92	71	81	75	+6	1.28	+0.58	5	1.50	75	60	67	
Vicksburg	96	73	82			1.39		6	1.83				
Extreme/Average	98	66	80	76	+4	1.64	+0.80	5	1.98	85	60	76	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	92	72	82	76	+6	0.03	-0.94	2	0.44				
McComb	91	71	81	76	+5	0.67	-0.41	3	1.62				
Extreme/Average	92	71	81	76	+5	0.35	-0.56	3	1.03				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	96	69	81			0.90		2	2.23				
Hattiesburg	92	69	81	76	+5	1.29	+0.30	2	2.49				
Laurel	94	69	81	75	+6	0.59	-0.43	5	0.63				
Meridian	93	70	81	75	+6	2.82	+1.93	5	3.30				
Newton	96	67	81	74	+7	1.15	+0.31	4	1.19	86	75	80	0.18
Extreme/Average	96	67	81	75	+6	1.35	+0.44	4	1.97	86	75	80	0.18
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	94	69	81	77	+4	0.47	-0.76	3	3.07				
Biloxi AFB	88	72	82			0.64		3	5.08				
Gulfport	88	75	82	78	+4	0.22	-1.25	3	4.86				
Pascagoula	91	71	81			1.24		2	6.90				
Poplarville	94	71	83	76	+7	2.20	+1.22	5	4.33	90	74	81	0.19
Extreme/Average	94	69	82	77	+5	0.95	-0.29	3	4.79	90	74	81	0.19
State	98	63	80	74	+6	2.04	+1.15	4	2.64	100	60	81	0.17

DFN = Departure from Normal.